

California GARDEN

May/June 2009

Volume 100 No 3 \$4.00

Daylilies



California Garden
Retrospective: 1949–1968

The Garden Trellis

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Nancy Carol Carter, Kay Harry,

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Constance Whitney

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ADVERTISING

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AFFILIATE LISTING

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RENEWALS

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membership@sdfloral.org

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San Diego Floral Association
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Email: editor@sdfloral.org

California GARDEN

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May/June 2009, Volume 100, Number 3

DIG IN

Crossing the Border with Plants	4
Did You Know: Free Mulch	4
Water Conservation Hotline	5
Mid-1800s Tomatoes	6
June Speaker: Paul Maschka	7
Favorite Tool: Stirrup Hoe	7
Tecolote Memorial Garden	8

FEATURES

Durable, Delightful Daylilies	11
Garden Conversations: Southwest Hemerocallis Society	13
California Garden Retrospective: 1949-1968	14
The Garden Trellis	24

REGULARS

Book Reviews	16
Now is the Time	18
Calendar	29
Affiliate List	33
From the Archives	36

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President: Nancy Carol Carter (president@sdfloral.org)

Arrangers Guild Chair: Suzanne Michel

Headquarters: Casa del Prado, Room #105, Balboa Park, 619-232-5762

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President's Letter

We are among the fortunate. We are members of the San Diego Floral Association! My appreciation for our Association was strengthened by two recent experiences. At our most recent Floral Association board meeting, Lucy Kramer reported on her research after assuming responsibility for organizing and promoting classes. Over the years, our association has offered hundreds of short courses in gardening, floral design, cultivation, specialty growing and crafts using natural products. Struck by the demonstrable work of past members in providing educational programs, Lucy observed that we owe a debt to those who built this organization. A debt, she said, that can only be paid by assuming responsibility for continuing our educational mission in the robust fashion of earlier volunteers.

This issue continues the *California Garden* retrospective offered during this 100th anniversary year of our magazine. Research for this piece provided a second meaningful experience, as it was my turn to look back at a twenty-year period of the magazine. As I read issues published in the 1950s and '60s I was struck by the large number of volunteers involved in the magazine and their well-targeted grappling with the garden and horticulture issues of the day. Writers took note of the often bleak and unplanted tract home developments fanning out across San Diego County and offered practical and sound advice for both new gardens and for beautifying treeless new streets. Long before the current revival of interest, Jane Minshall wrote "Let's Plant Natives," published by *California Garden* in 1950 (see page 36). How contemporary. How useful.

Our past can inspire, but so can our present. With this issue of the magazine, Lucy Warren ends her most recent stint as executive editor. In a stellar example of the volunteer spirit, Lucy has twice served as our editor, unselfishly offering her time, writing, editorial skills and broad horticultural knowledge to *California Garden*. There is no better testament to her talent and high standards than the magazine itself. With the invaluable assistance of managing editor Amy R. Wood, Lucy has raised the bar by producing consistently handsome and informative issues. Please join me in thanking Lucy Warren who has resoundingly established her place as a notable among Floral Association volunteers.

One final note—I'd like to share this message from Lisa Prindle with all SDFA members who give membership gifts: "Unfortunately, when we changed our database from DOS to Microsoft access, some valuable renewal information was lost concerning gift memberships. Gift givers should receive a renewal notice when the gift membership has expired. This allows the gift giver to renew the gift membership if they so choose. If they choose not to renew a gift membership, the recipient will be sent a notice with an offer to continue their membership. Please contact the SDFA office or email me at membership@sdfloral.org, if you have not been receiving a notice to renew a gift membership and would like to. Remember, when sending an email to SDFA with questions or concerns, please add a 'comment' in the subject space. This helps me to filter your email. Thanks!"

Nancy Carol Carter

Nancy Carol Carter
President, 2008-09

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Instructor: Kathy Page

In This Issue

Early summer is a particularly busy time for gardening activities. As the weather heats up we look forward to some of the fruits of our labors whether they be simply visual, floral or edible. We have taken this opportunity to highlight the Queen of Summer, the tough but ephemeral daylily in all its form and glory, a familiar garden plant which keeps evolving. For vegetable lovers we look forward not only to a marvelous presentation on growing vegetables in an urban environment, but appreciating an heirloom tomato reintroduced in an historic garden. Consider moving upward with your garden profile as we explore the history and current potential of the garden trellis with some unique ideas for form.

Discover a new vista in your explorations of local gardens at the rim of Tecolote Canyon on the USD campus envisioned and created by USD students. As we expand our gardening horizons through travel, it is important we understand and respect the vital job the Customs and Border Patrol agents are doing in trying to minimize the introduction of new pests and diseases to the United States.

This issue we move forward in our retrospective to an era that may seem not-so-much history but memory for those of us who grew up in and lived through the post-war years. In many ways it seemed a simpler time but it was rich and active for gardeners.

It's easy to register!

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May's class runs from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and is held in Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA. Coffee and sweets will be provided; bring your own lunch and clippers. Call Kathy Page for more information about San Diego Floral Association workshops at 619-422-2845. To register and pay, call 619-232-5762. Make check payable to: San Diego Floral Association. Classes limited to 10 persons and must be prepaid.

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Crossing the Border

What visitors to Mexico should know about bringing back potential prohibited plants

As both Mother's Day and warm summer days approach, many San Diego residents might find themselves journeying to Mexico for day trips and vacations. Some of these travelers may want to bring flowers back with them from Mexico into the United States. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials want residents and visitors to know what to expect when they cross the border, and to know that some flowers and cut greenery are expressly prohibited.

All travelers are expected to declare all flowers, fruit and plants purchased in Mexico to CBP officers. People who do not declare bouquets or other greenery could face a \$300 fine. Most flowers, including roses and carnations, are allowed into the U.S. after they pass inspection; however, there are some flowers that are not permitted through the passenger ports of entry. For example, travelers cannot bring arrangements with chrysanthemums or gladiolas into the United States. Chrysanthemum and gladiolas can carry two fungi—"Chrysanthemum White Rust" and "Gladiolus Rust" respectively—that can infect other plants statewide. Additionally, some cut greenery is banned; particularly orange jasmine (*Murraya*), a host for Asian citrus psyllid, a dangerous citrus pest that has led to recent citrus quarantines in San Diego County. If any portion of a bouquet has pests—even bouquets featuring 'safe' plants—the entire bouquet will be confiscated. Keep that potential sunk cost in mind when buying floral arrangements south of the border.

CBP agriculture specialists are busy making sure that flower imports are free from insects and diseases that could harm the agricultural and floral industries in the United States. They are specially trained to inspect plants for signs of insects or disease,

and this careful attention to detail ensures that even microscopic pests are detected and prevented from being introduced into the United States where they could cause significant economic or environmental harm. Visitors need to know what they can and can't bring back so they don't unwittingly carry hitchhikers that could seriously damage American agriculture. —Allison Hooker

Help customs officials keep the Asian psyllid out by not bringing back orange jasmine cuttings.



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LETH GRAFTON-CARDWELL

Did You Know . . .

FREE MULCH is available to citizens of San Diego who don't mind loading it themselves at the Miramar Landfill's Miramar Greenery. Mulch in the garden is useful for weed suppression, dust control and most importantly, water conservation. The Greenery cooks its mulch at a high temperature to kill weed seeds and disease-causing pathogens. For a price, gardeners may also acquire weed-free, disease-free red woodchips, brown woodchips, plain woodchips and high-quality compost. Call 858-694-7000 for more information, visit www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services or see it for yourself at The Greenery on 5180 Convoy Street, San Diego (north of Highway 52). —Nancy Carol Carter



Water Conservation Hotline

Dig in!

Get your water-wise
questions answered with a
call to this new hotline

For San Diegans concerned about keeping their landscapes lovely with water rationing looming, there is now help. The Water Conservation Garden of Cuyamaca College recently debuted its "Water Smart Pipeline," a telephone hotline to help the community during these water-challenging times.

People frequently turn to the Water Conservation Garden when they have questions about water-smart gardening. After being inundated with questions at the Garden, senior staff decided to set up a hotline, manned by an expert, to help answer these questions.

Nan Sterman, instructor of the garden's "Bye Bye Grass" class and author of *California Gardener's Guide Volume 2* was an obvious choice to be the voice of the hotline. Sterman is passionate about climate appropriate gardens. "Gardens," she says, "with plants that don't just survive but thrive in our arid, Mediterranean climate."

Already she is helping people with questions about getting rid of their existing lawn, giving advice to building managers who need their tenants to realize the importance of water-smart gardening and helping people plan climate appropriate gardens.

The "Water Smart Pipeline"—with advice from Sterman—can be accessed at 866-962-7021 and is open for calls on Tuesday mornings from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and on Thursday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. through the end of the year. —Alyssa Holderbein



Have a water conservation questions but are too busy to visit the Water Conservation Garden? Try calling their new hotline.

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Dig in!

Mid-1800s Tomatoes

Chiapas
tomatoes
make a
triumphant
return to the
Old Point Loma
Lighthouse

The Point Loma Garden Club sponsors a kitchen garden at the Old Point Loma Lighthouse (www.nps.gov/archive/cabr/lighthouse.html). In the notes passed to me when I became the chairperson of the committee in charge of the garden in 2005, mention was made of the Chiapas wild tomato being grown by the family of the lighthouse tender in the 1850s.

Intrigued, I searched the Internet for a Chiapas tomato seed source in the spring of 2006 and was surprised to find a company in the Southwest that offered them. Unfortunately, they were out of stock, and they remained out of stock for the next two years.

Earlier this year, a discussion with a fellow club member who was a newly certified Master Gardener about heirloom tomatoes reminded me to search the Internet again. This time I found a company in Canada that offered the seed and they were in stock. Happily entering my order, I was abruptly brought up short. The company did not export to the United States—too much paperwork with the Department of Agriculture. I guess those folks were trying to stave off a repeat of the *Attack of the Killer Tomatoes!*

Going back to the new Master Gardener with my tale of woe, she mentioned a fellow Master Gardener in her class who was very knowledgeable about vegetable gardening and suggested I email him about these tomatoes, which I did.

He quickly replied with an Internet resource for the Chiapas wild tomato seed.

Unfortunately, I replied back to him, it was the same source I had already discovered in Canada that wouldn't export to the United States. He wrote back that it was not a problem, he would have a friend in Toronto order them, mail them to him and he would get them to me.

Several weeks later, I was planting Chiapas wild tomato seeds! I simply put the seed in water over night and then put two seeds about a quarter inch deep in seed starter mix in a five-inch plastic pot and kept them watered. Six weeks later, in late May, I either passed on the seedlings in their five-inch pots or transplanted them into a garden.

Chiapas tomatoes are now growing in the Old Point Loma Lighthouse Kitchen Garden, the garden of La Casa de Estudillo in Old Town and two private homes in Point Loma. In spreading them around that way, I insured a supply of local seed for next year.

Of interest, the notes passed to me mentioned the family draped the tomato vines on the fence surrounding the garden. During my online researches, one website said the vines were sprawling and another said they were about five feet long. In fact, these plants grew between eight to twelve feet across depending on where in San Diego they were grown. Sprawling indeed! The tomatoes are very tiny—about the size of currents—but they are quite sweet and tasty for their small size.

We will probably continue to plant these historic heirloom tomatoes at the Old Point Loma Lighthouse Kitchen Garden, so stop by this summer for a look! — Dale Rekus

PHOTO: AMY R. WOOD

Paul Maschka to discuss organic farming in urban spaces

Please join us on June 16 as we welcome Paul Maschka to speak at our June General meeting. Paul was the San Diego Zoological Society Lead Organic Horticulturalist for the past 17 years. He is now pursuing his passion as an organic urban farmer at San Diego City Colleges' Seeds at City Urban Farming program. Paul also writes and lectures on a number of topics, including mycology, beekeeping, edible landscaping and chocolate. It should be an informative evening touching on a number of relevant topics.

The event is open to the public. The lecture will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16. Prior to the meeting an optional catered Bar-B-Que dinner is available by paid reservation; please make your reservation by Thursday, June 11. The cost for the Bar-B-Que dinner is \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members. For more information call the San Diego Floral Association office at 619-232-5762. —Kay Harry



PHOTO: MARGE PALMER



The stirrup hoe is an excellent tool for weeding and cultivation.

Favorite Tool: Stirrup Hoe

If a good garden tool is worth its weight in gold, a favorite is darn near priceless. One of my favorites is a wood-handled stirrup hoe. The stirrup hoe—or saddle, scuffle, action or oscillating hoe, among other names too long to list—is the perfect tool for weeding unruly planter beds in an efficient and ache-free manner, and my trusty tool has saved

me from a lot of sweat, sore muscles and frustration.

A stirrup tool features a loop of metal, flat on the side perpendicular to the handle that is sharpened on both sides. This stirrup pivots slightly where attached to the handle. The primary use of a stirrup hoe—as opposed to a scuffle hoe (which looks like a square of metal that you pull toward you to use)—is to weed and lightly cultivate the soil. The stirrup hoe can also help save your back, as unlike the scuffle hoe or collinear hoe (which looks like

a long, thin razor blade with teeth that you use to 'shave' weeds from your beds), it can be moved both forward and back. This is thanks to the pivoting stirrup. The pivot allows you to tuck into a comfortable position and use your momentum and a rocking motion to move the tool beneath the weeds and through the soil.

You can buy stirrup hoes at most garden shops and nurseries; they tend to run between \$10 and \$35, depending on the materials used for the handle and blade. There are a lot of handle options; they come with wood handles, metal handles and even plastic handles. Pick a handle material that feels best for you, and if you have small hands, try looking for something a bit thinner than standard. Trust me, the joints in your hands will thank you for it later. A long handle is recommended so you don't have to crouch over too much while you work, and so you can reach into tight or overgrown spaces.

Proper care for your tool is important, so remember to remove dirt every time you're done using the piece, taking care to dry excess water so the metal doesn't rust. If the moving pivot part begins to lock up, use a little WD-40 to get that motion back. You'll also want to sharpen the tool after time so as to get the best result when weeding, which is, after all, the whole reason you'd want a stirrup hoe in the first place. —Amy R. Wood

Tecolote Treasure

The little-known Tecolote Memorial Garden is one of San Diego's hidden gems

Located on the University of San Diego campus on the rim of Tecolote Canyon behind the Hahn University Center sits the Tecolote Memorial Garden. It was created by University of San Diego students both as a peace garden and a place to promote native plants, and features both a student memorial to September 11th and a plaque to honor the Kumeyaay people. The plants of this garden, all of which are indigenous to California, reveal the beauty and balance of the natural world.

In 2000 a University of San Diego group called The Environmental Action Group (TEGA) first conceived the idea. Member Mark Monty Gierd asked the university if the group could take out the lawn in a little-used spot on campus and replace it with a garden. Then university-president Alice Hayes agreed, and helped turn a little idea into a bigger project with a donation from the university. With the help from a major donation given by parents of a TEGA member and support from the university, the garden became a reality.

The garden was designed with support from TEGA, Mike Mayer and project coordinator Tim Douanda. Construction started in 2001, with the lawn, sidewalk and ice plant quickly replaced with native plants. A winding walkway with lights around it was designed, as well as a round seating area. A compass is the centerpiece of this seating area. Instead of having a traditional North, South, East, West description, the four points of the Tecolote Memorial Garden compass say Nonviolence, Solidarity, Equality and World Peace.

The connection with September 11, 2001 came as a result of timing, as the attacks occurred during the garden's construction. It was decided that the garden should also be a student memorial to 9/11. This student memorial asks visitors to respect nature, sustainability and peace.

Last spring during an American Indian Health and Spirituality class, students discussed the importance of native plants for Native American culture. They noted that USD, being located on Kumeyaay homeland, should have something that honors the original inhabitants. The students crafted the idea of



A pergola alerts visitors that they're entering the garden.

putting signage at the Tecolote Memorial Garden that honored the Kumeyaay people. They thought it was fitting that a native plant garden would also honor the native peoples of this part of San Diego.

Horticulturalists will enjoy the garden's many native plants. Some of the plants in the garden include: the matillija poppy (*Romneya californica*), a flower with white petals and a yellow puff ball center; the cleveland sage (*Salvia clevelandii*), small purple flowers; toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), a red berry bush; the San Diego sunflower (*Viguiera laciniata*), which looks like a mini sunflower; and a large red elderberry tree (*Sambucus mexicana*).

The garden is still a work in progress as subsequent groups of students consider modifications and improvements. There have been discussions of placing naming plaques by each plant to further educate people who visit the garden. One student started this project by placing numbered stones next to different plants, but presently there is no identification that correlates to the number. A big hope for the future is that a brochure will be made available that includes the scientific names, the Kumeyaay names, as well as Kumeyaay uses for each plant featured in the garden. Perhaps future students will get involved and take up this project.

In addition to its dedications, this garden is a rare space on campus born of student ideas and constantly being shaped by different generations of USD students, which is very fitting for a dynamic garden space.

The best time to visit the garden is anytime during daylight, and especially on weekends when staff and student traffic is at a minimum. It is especially beautiful at sunset because it overlooks Tecolote Canyon, Mission Bay and the Pacific Ocean.

— Allison Hooker



The stunning view from the garden.

“...the four points of the Tecolote Memorial Garden compass say
Nonviolence, Solidarity, Equality
and World Peace.”



PHOTO: RACHEL COBB

PHOTO: ROBERT LEE

Matillija Poppy



Daylily

Hemerocallis 'Most Noble'

Durable, Delightful Daylilies

Update your garden with an old-time favorite

By Aenne Carter

Daylilies are the workhorses of the garden. Blooming nonstop even during heat waves, daylilies are regaining their rightful throne as the Queen of Summer. In San Diego's mild climate, daylilies start to flower in spring and endure into late fall. In addition to gracing the garden with color nine months out of the year, the flowers are edible.

While ancient Chinese ate the daylily's crown and roots to treat liver disorders, most gardeners prefer the tastier portion of the plant, the buds and flowers. Blooms perched on top of cakes look elegant. Try a daylily stuffed with a goat's cheese—a tasty treat. Mild, crunchy with a hint of celery, the flowers are surprisingly delicious.

Daylilies are grown for their garden color splash and not for their scent, but if you sniff closely, you may catch a sweet, lemony or honeyish fragrance. Scent and flavor are different by variety. As a general rule, we find them to be delicate with the pastels growing spicier as the color deepens, to bitter with the darker shades.

Daylily's botanical name, *Hemerocallis*, comes from a combination of the Greek words for 'day' and 'beauty.' Their name gives a nod to the fact that most individual daylily blossoms open only for a single day. However, their multiple flower stalks are loaded with buds, so the overall show continues for weeks. Recently, new varieties that flower early in the season and rebloom late have continued to expand the daylily's extraordinary bloom season.

Daylilies are referred to as the perfect perennial because they bloom despite drought, shade, heat or poor soil. Furthermore, they are available in a rainbow of colors and in a wide variety of shapes and sizes. Choose from intriguing flower shapes like triangle, circular, star, ruffled, trumpet, spider and more.

The evergreen varieties are well-suited for all parts of San Diego. The American Hemerocallis Society notes that daylilies vary in their ability to withstand cold, and suggests that you pick ones proven successful in your zone. However, even if you have a cold snap and your daylilies freeze or turn black, the crowns usually survive, especially if you cover them with mulch before midwinter.

With so many varieties of daylilies, and thousands of new options being added each year, San Diegans should focus on the evergreen, repeat blooming cultivars for maximum gardening delight. Old-fashioned plants and many of those bred for cooler climates bloom in one dramatic flush and also die back during part of the year. If you fall in love with one of these, you might want to continue your search for an equivalent flower in an evergreen, repeat blooming variety.

Daylily Care

Caring for daylilies is a simple pleasure because they are not fussy and have relatively few pest or disease problems. Daylilies need at least five hours of sun, and that is about all they require of a gardener.

Sometimes, however, daylilies in San Diego's coastal gardens get rust—especially in cool, damp summers. This rust is caused by a fungus, *Puccinia hemerocallidis*. First observed in 2000, and it leaves a distinctive orange powder on the leaves. When this powder is brushed off, the affected area is often left white. Although this looks horrid, the plant will survive.

To prevent this rust, plant daylilies where they will have good air circulation (not mashed up against a wall for example), and avoid overhead watering. If rust develops, it is vital to remove every single effected leaf, and destroy them. Additionally, never add diseased leaves to your compost heap because rust spreads by air and contact. Different daylily cultivars vary in their resistance to this disease; selecting disease resistance varieties will ease your mind and reduce your gardening chores.

Daylilies are the singular host to their own particular aphid, appropriately called the "daylily aphid." Fortunately, these aphids are active primarily in the cool of spring and fall. To treat these pests, try the least toxic method first. Twice a day for several days in a row, spray infected daylilies with a hard jet of water. Often this is enough to get the aphids moving.

If you are impatient you may reach for an easy-on-the-environment spray, such as Safer Soap or Jungle Rain. Still bothered? As a last resort, reach for a mildly systemic pesticide and apply as directed on the label with advice from your local nursery.

For the best blooms, give daylilies regular and deep watering. However, should you become too busy to garden regularly or you go on a lengthy vacation, no worries, these durable plants bounce back quickly. As we focus on water-wise gardening, think about planting daylilies in a bed with other garden favorites with similar water needs so you can just soak that area regularly and not put excessive, unnecessary water on your marvelous drought-tolerant plants.

Jackie Jesch, owner of Daylily Hill (www.daylilyhill.com) in Bonsall, suggests feeding your daylilies with lawn fertilizer, or any fertilizer high in nitrogen. She says, "This will keep your daylilies green, growing and healthy. I fertilize whenever I have time, or when my plants begin to look yellow." Although many experts recommend using a fertilizer labeled for flowers with high phosphorus, Jesch swears by lawn food.

Another unusual hint from Jesch is to cut your daylily down to about two inches above ground in the hottest and coldest times

of the year. "To cut your daylilies back, simply use whatever tool you like: a serrated knife, weed whip or pruners." She adds, "Then feed them and water in the fertilizer, and you will be surprised how quickly this revives your daylily."

If you want to 'gild your lilies,' then apply organic mulch liberally around them. This helps retain moisture, keeps down competing weeds and gradually improves the soil.

Selecting Your Daylily

Newly developed daylilies are anything but run-of-the-mill. Currently, there are more than fifty-thousand varieties, with more being added yearly. Modern versions are bold with complex colors, including ones with contrasting edges. They also range in form, from thin and spider-like, to voluptuous with serious ruffles. Although there are many growers throughout the country offering catalogs filled with hundreds to thousands of varieties, we suggest that you buy from local growers to be assured of plants that are tested and well adapted to our climate. Whatever daylily you choose, they are the perfect perennial. These low maintenance beauties keep on coming with flowers even in withering heat.

The best-selling daylily at Daylily Hill in Bonsall remains 'Sun Twist.' The individual, clear yellow blossoms are large for a semi-dwarf, and each petal is curved back with a twist, therefore the name. After all, nothing looks fresher in sweltering midsummer than a yellow flower. For a glowing combination, team this sunny daylily with marigolds, and black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia* sp.).

'Strawberry Candy,' the 1998 Stout Silver Award recipient, finally gives daylily lovers a true pink, without the usual dose of peach. Ruffled edges, combined with a darker pink edge and throat, make this daylily blue-ribbon worthy. Team 'Strawberry Candy' with coreopsis and feathery ornamental grass for a romantic look.

'Hot Lips' is another popular variety at Daylily Hill. This semi-dwarf has a rich, red color and a golden throat. Furthermore, it blooms for months, and the leaves are unusually substantial. This daylily energizes the garden with splashy red. 'Hot Lips' stands out in a container or surrounded by flowers in white and blue.

Buena Creek Gardens in San Marcos (www.buenacreekgardens.com) was once the site of one of the largest daylily growers Cordon Blue Nursery, which sold plants worldwide. Buena Creek Gardens still maintain a diverse stock of fifty or more varieties that are proven to be winners in local gardens.

Planting a Daylily

The first step to growing a daylily is finding a suitable spot. Look for an area with well-drained soil and plenty of sunshine (a minimum of five hours per day). Then, prepare the soil. Do this by digging and loosening the ground to a depth of one foot. Add in organic soil amendment and mix thoroughly with the native soil. Your hole should be twice the size of the daylilies' rootball. Make a mound of soil in the center of your hole and splay the roots of the plant around the mound.

Aim to plant your daylily about as deep as it originally grew, and avoid setting the crown (where foliage and roots join) below the soil surface. It's better to err in setting it slightly higher rather than slightly lower. One suggested method is to form a cone of

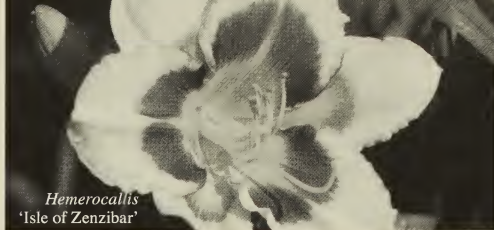


PHOTO: RACHEL COBB

earth and spread the roots out around the cone. Then spread a layer of soil covering the roots so the crown sits high. Press soil firmly to make sure there are no air pockets. This will leave a depression at the base of the crown like a mini moat which is ideal for soaking the roots without rotting the crown. Water the daylily well.

These plants are so tough, you can even transplant them when they are blooming! So if you find one you love blooming in a nursery you can buy it, bring it home and pop it right into the ground with no problem.

Dividing Daylilies

After three to five years, daylilies often need dividing. If you notice die-out in the center of the clump, or a decrease in flower production, this is the signal your daylily is ready to be rejuvenated. The easiest way to divide a large clump is to use a garden fork to lift the entire mass out of the ground. Work the fork about a foot out from the clump and gently push down all the way around the plant to loosen the roots. Eventually, the rootball will be free enough to hoist the clump out of the hole.

At this point insert a shovel or a large serrated knife into the middle of the clump to gently divide it. Continue dividing the clump in half until you have worked the large mass into petite new divisions. Depending on the size of the plant you may have two divisions, or as many as eight. Cut the foliage on each new clump down to a two-inch fan. This helps the plant retain moisture while it is getting established.

If you don't have time to replant right away, the daylily stores nutrition in its roots so it can remain bare root for quite some time—one of the reasons pioneers spread them throughout the West as they traveled from homestead to homestead. When you are ready, plant them as indicated above. Just remember, no roots, no new plant.

You can expand your daylily area with the divisions or share or trade them with friends and neighbors. This eco-green practice takes advantage of nature's bounty, minimizes the waste stream and creates good feelings among the people you know. After all, who doesn't appreciate a new flower in their garden.

To Learn More

On June 13 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. the public is invited to view the 38th Annual Daylily Show in the Ecke Building at Quail Botanical Gardens. Members of the local chapter of the Southwest Hemerocallis Society (American Hemerocallis Society, Region 7) meet monthly at Quail Botanical Gardens on the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. For more information contact the local chapter's president Gary Colby at gcolby1@san.rr.com.

Cover Photo: *Hemerocallis* 'Mountain Violet' at Quail Botanical Gardens. Photo: Rachel Cobb

Garden Conversations- Southwest Hemerocallis Society

Gary Colby of the Southwest Hemerocallis Society shares his knowledge of daylilies with *California Garden* readers

By Alyssa Holderbein

Gary Colby is an avid daylily (*Hemerocallis*) enthusiast. Several times, he has been both President and Vice President of the Southwest Hemerocallis Society as well as Procurement Chairman. Colby served on the board of directors for the American Hemerocallis Society and has been a garden judge in New York, Florida and California. He has also spoken on the soil food web as taught by Elaine Ingham Ph.D. It can be found at <http://soilfoodweb.com>.

California Garden: How did you first come to grow daylilies?

Gary Colby: I attended a couple of shows and loved the range of colors and easiness to grow.

CG: What was it that attracted you to daylilies? What makes them special to you?

GC: I have been active with daylilies since about 1984, over 24 years now. Initially I wanted an inexpensive easy to grow plant to fill my bare yard.

CG: Was there one person who influenced your interest and love of daylilies?

GC: Three people really influenced my love of daylilies. Vern McCrosky gave me about 80 Munson daylilies and got me hooked. Bob Brooks owned Cordon Bleu in San Marcos. Bob hybridized and each year I would visit Cordon Bleu two to three times to purchase and just enjoy the garden. I loved Cordon Bleu because of the huge variety of shrubs, bushes and trees, as well as perennials.

Sanford Roberts is a close friend. Robbie and his wife Pat were always generous and fun to visit so I made it a point to visit Blossom Valley Gardens at least twice a year.

CG: Tell us a little bit about the Southwest Hemerocallis Society.

GC: It was organized in 1973 with seven original members including Bob Brooks and Sanford Roberts. I got active with the society around 1986.

CG: Right now, how many daylily plants do you have?

GC: I currently have about 900 varieties. I would like to have around 250.

CG: What do people typically do wrong in caring for daylilies?

GC: Soil preparation is key. Since daylilies will grow in any soil it is easy to ignore their requirements, which is a good rich loose

soil, lots of water and a little fertilizer applied about once a month. Daylilies are not heavy feeders. I use Milorganite 6-2-0.

CG: Are there special challenges to growing daylilies in the San Diego climate?

GC: Daylilies like a lot of water and with water rationing looming they may not be the best choice. However, with a good loose soil rich in soil biology it is possible to water every four days in the summer and still have a beautiful garden.

CG: What is your favorite daylily?

GC: I'm very fond of the unusual form and spider form daylilies. I like the dark purples with a chalky eye zone, the huge luscious yellows with a pink infusion clear out to the edge and tons of heavy chicken fat ruffling. This past show my favorite daylily was 'Kennesaw Mountain Hayride' hybridized by Bill Waldorp in Georgia. Other favorites include 'Orange City', 'Lava Burst' and the pumpkin and black colored daylily 'Halloween Masquerade' by Leon Payne in Houston.

CG: What would you recommend for a beginner?

GC: I would recommend making one nice purchase of inexpensive daylilies from a trusted vendor such as Dan Hansen in Florida, or Bonnie and Stan Holly in Sacramento. Try giving the hybridizer \$100 or \$200 and ask them to select a variety for you. You'll get more for your money and the hybridizer will go out of their way to give a superb value.

CG: What books or other sources of information would you recommend for people to learn more about daylilies?

GC: The daylily dictionary online at http://www.daylilies.org/ahs_dictionary is an excellent source for terms. The AHS publishes a thorough comprehensive book "The New Daylily Handbook" for about \$20 (<http://www.daylilies.org/AHSpubl.html>). The AHS also has a voucher program where you receive a voucher for \$35-\$75 that can be used for free daylilies at any of the listed providers when you sign up as a new AHS member.

CG: What benefit do people get from joining the local chapter of the Southwest Hemerocallis Society?

GC: In addition to the social aspects of sharing the love and knowledge of daylilies, we have interesting meetings, a daylily show and annually purchase new and interesting varieties.

California Garden Restrospective

Looking back at *California Garden*: 1949-1968

By Nancy Carol Carter and Lucy Warren

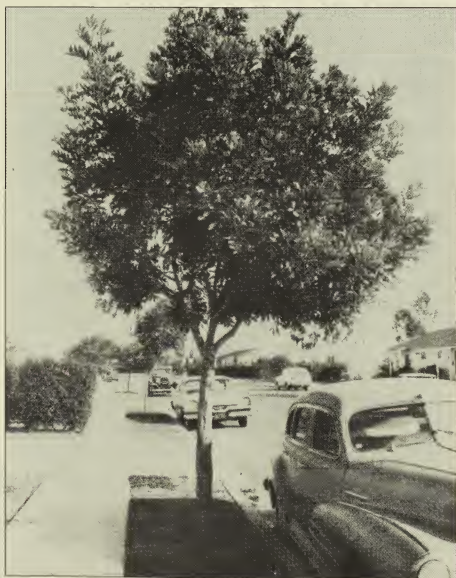
A rebounding post-World War II economy fueled unprecedented national prosperity and growth between 1949 and 1968. San Diego's population more than doubled, and suburban housing development created thousands of bare new garden plots in Southern California, leading to an expansion of the commercial nursery business. Rapid housing growth reinvigorated *California Garden's* attention to civic beautification. Photographs of sterile suburban tract homes appeared, along with articles on the benefits of planting landscape and street trees. The earliest articles on "safe landscaping" were published. In the early 1950s, the topic referred to selecting trees and shrubs to prevent the creation of blind corners on new suburban streets, however, by 1959 the magazine also turned attention to canyon clearance and landscaping that can make homes safer during a wild fire.

This was a transitional period for the Floral Association and *California Garden* as the last of the generation who personally knew those present at the formation of the organization and the magazine was handed off to newer members. The past was honored in the autumn 1953 'Kate Sessions Issue.' Selections of her writings and nine articles about her were published in a collection that remains useful today. Another nod to history occurred when the summer 1959 issue faithfully reproduced the appearance and content of the magazine's first volume.

Established voices continued to lend depth and quality to *California Garden*. Roland S. Hoyt, tropical plant expert, championed the cause of more intelligent choices of plant materials by familiarizing readers with little-known plants appropriate to the area. Chauncy I. Jerebek, "The Tree Man," sustained his long association with the magazine throughout this era, as did Hugh Evans (eminent Los Angeles horticulturist) and the venerable Ethel Baily Higgins of the San Diego Museum of Natural History. The magazine also marked the passing of some notables. Guy Fleming, instrumental in the creation of Torrey Pines State Park, published until shortly before his death in 1960. Alfred C. Hottes, nationally recognized writer and editor, contributed until his untimely demise in 1955, ironically leaving an unusual article on cemetery landscaping.

Regular and long-running columns were a distinctive feature of *California Garden* during the 1950s and '60s. Ada Perry, local radio and garden news celebrity, took over the practical "Garden Chores" column in 1952. For more than 20 years, Marion Almy Lippitt wrote "Leaves from the Observer's Notebook," a quirky meditation on life, salted with occasional references to the garden projects of her husband Henry. Janet Richards collected news and events in her "Compost" column. Under the banner "Roland Hoyt Recommends," the landscape architect featured a single plant in each column, always identified by its Latin name.

Organizational news reported the acquisition of the Anni Baldaugh portrait of Kate O. Sessions that still hangs in the office and library of the Floral Association. Avid support for the California Forest Service reforestation fund initiated more than 60 years of organizational involvement with the Penny Pines program. World War II military uses of Balboa Park were phased out so that in 1951 the San Diego Floral Association could happily announced its return to the Floral Building, becoming one of the seven cultural institutions then present in the park.



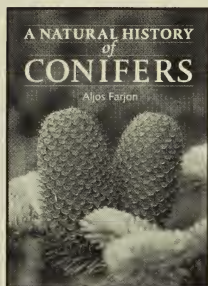
An image from a story on planting 'street trees' in the December 1966/January 1967 issue.

TIMELINE

- 1950:** Korean War breaks out; credit card invented
- 1953:** Molecular structure of DNA discovered.
- 1957:** Sputnik I launched; Interstate 8 under construction
- 1959:** Alaska and Hawaii gain statehood
- 1962:** Cuban Missile Crisis; *Silent Spring* published
- 1964:** The Beatles appear on *The Ed Sullivan Show*; UCSD opens

Reviews

All of the books reviewed in *California Garden* are part of the San Diego Floral Association Library collection (located in Room 105, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA). Come, browse—and if you're a SDFA member—check them out!



A Natural History of Conifers

By Aljos Farjon
Timber Press
\$35 (Hardcover); 304 pages

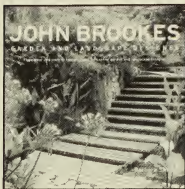
In *A Natural History of Conifers*, the author's goal is to offer conifers a "much needed facelift." Instead of seeing conifers as hedge plants and Christmas trees the author writes to enlighten us to the extraordinary diversity and extensive history of conifers. A staff member of world-famous Kew Garden in London, Aljos Farjon begins with the basic concept of what conifers are; through the chapters he shares his vast knowledge on the evolution, taxonomy, ecology, distribution, human use and conservation of the 627 species that occupy every continent on earth from high latitudes to tropical forests.

The evolution of many species over the course of three hundred million years of geological changes, climate extremes and extinction of some species make fascinating reading. The chapter, 'All or Nothing about Ancestors,' is a reminder of the species lost to our planet. Another reveals the long evolutionary process these trees have taken and their great contribution to the world. Conifers of each geographic area are described and discussed with excellent photography to enhance our knowledge. Farjon provides a wealth of information about the diverse conifers beyond the daily life of most of us and an appreciation for their incredible importance to the life and beauty of the planet.

Aljos Farjon worked as Senior Scientific Officer of Royal Kew Botanic Gardens from 1996 to 2006 and he is now an Honorary Research Associate there. —Kay Harry

John Brookes – Garden and Landscape Designer

By Barbara Simms
Conran Octopus Ltd. Publishing
\$40 (Hardcover); 204 pages



Luscious color photos, landscape design drawings and a long success story are the highlights of this handsome volume. Subtitled "the career and work of today's most influential garden and landscape designer," it presents a glowing narrative of Brookes' life and

impressive body of work.

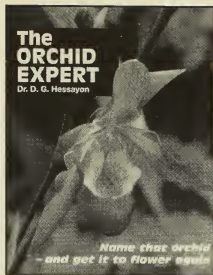
Following a childhood of fascination with all growing things and military service in WWI, he found his way into his chosen field with a horticultural course at his local college. It was a time when the concept of landscape architecture as a profession was still in its infancy. But his passion for garden design soon attracted the interest of landscape pioneers whose support led to what eventually became worldwide recognition of his talents as not only a landscape designer, but also as a highly regarded teacher and author in Britain.

The first section of the book provides a detailed account of his professional progression, and it is interesting to note how his work evolved from formal planting areas to a more natural rambling style. This could be attributed to his view of plants as secondary to "the fitness of the garden for family use." He was among those who came to regard the garden as a retreat into nature, and not a fantasy or theater, as seemed popular in the 19th century.

Traveling the world on various commissions, his emphasis has been on regional landscape identity. Except perhaps for the "typical English gardens" he designed for the Chicago Botanical Garden and in Tatehima, Japan, he has followed horticultural palettes in such diverse locations as Albany, New York; La Coruna, Spain; San Isidro, Argentina and, of course, many locations in Britain. Many were estate-sized properties that required some degree of making over and most of the finished design included his signature pergolas and rectangular ponds. (He claims California landscape designer Thomas Church as an important influence.) Parks and commercial areas also were transformed by his ideals of bringing natural landscapes into a wide variety of settings.

All are presented in words and photos that could be an armchair garden tour in themselves. A lengthy gazetteer at the end of the book lists all of his garden design locations.

—Marge Howard-Jones



The Orchid Expert

By Dr. D.G. Hessayon
Expert
\$15 (Paperback); 128 pages

Orchids are fascinating because they really are different from any other plant. No other plants have their flower anatomy or other complex seed germination story, and among the various types, you will find roots that can take in moisture from the air, flowers that last for months and color combinations that are unmatched in the plant kingdom.

The Orchid Expert, by Dr. D.G. Hessayon, is a must-read, slim volume that contains a valuable, handy reference guide for how to make orchids permanent members of your garden family. It features important information in short chapters filled with graphs, diagrams and pictures that make this book easy to understand. *The Orchid Expert* provides information on ways to ensure repeat flowering, what to look for when buying a plant, the secrets of success and orchid care as well as an "A-Z" guide to the world of orchids.

The Orchid Expert should appeal to any skill level of orchid enthusiast, but it is particularly valuable for first-time growers. I found, as a beginner, that the book helped demystify orchid growing and gave me the information I needed to not only get started growing but the confidence to feel like I could also become an "orchid expert!" For instance, one myth quickly overturned is that orchids are too difficult for ordinary people; the popular ones are no more difficult than your average house plant, and the book helps show how the average person can successfully care for his or her own orchid. —Allison Hooker

MOVING?

Please let us know.

Help us keep membership costs down by
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Fax it to us at 619-232-5762 or mail it to:

SDFA, 1650 El Prado #105,
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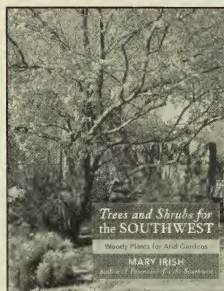
Changes of address can also be

submitted by email to

membership@sdfloral.org.

Trees and Shrubs for the Southwest: Woody Plants for Arid Gardens

By Mary Irish
Timber Press
\$35 (Hardcover); 332 pages



Sometimes it's easy to forget that San Diego is part of the Southwest. After all, with out coastal breezes and the more predominant 'Southern California' descriptor, it is hard to remember that many of the gardening challenges we face—especially in the East County—are shared by places such as Phoenix, Arizona and Laredo, Texas.

Mary Irish, former director of public horticulture at the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix, Arizona, aims to help all the residents in the southwest—from San Diego to Laredo—by offering expert plant selection and care advice and detailed plant profiles of over 180 woody plants and palm trees appropriate to the region in this outstanding reference book.

Trees and Shrubs for the Southwest is both informative and a visual gem. Mary Irish does a great job of setting up why the southwest region—with its mild, mountainous and high-heat desert regions—needs gardeners to plant climate-appropriate species, from the always looming issue of water usage to promoting natural habitats for birds and other wildlife. She also emphasizes care and cultivation with clearly explained sections that will help both novice and skilled gardeners get the most out of their new woody plants and palms. It is possible to feel that all the information you'd need to select, plant and care for the right tree or shrub is included in these 332 pages.

The bulk of the book is made up of plant profiles, where the author loads readers up with detailed information on each recommended plant. The plant's family name, distribution, mature size, blooming period, exposure and hardiness are given, as well as several paragraphs of detailed descriptions of the plant's characteristics, growing habits and related varieties. Of added benefit are the beautiful accompanying photos; each plant has a corresponding image, most shot by the author's husband, horticultural photographer Gary Irish. This plethora of information and images is a boon for anyone struggling to find the perfect plant for their landscape.

Readers should feel confident that they will learn something new about woody plants and palms and, if they follow the author's advice, be reassured that due to the author's attention to detail, they'll end up with a great, regionally-appropriate plant.

—Amy R. Wood

Now is the time

Timely tips to
keep your plants
happy throughout
May and June

African Violets

Barbara Conrad, Carlsbad African Violet Society

- This is the time of year when most violets bloom. Use a super bloom fertilizer from your local nursery to jolt stubborn violets into bloom.
- Check plants with a magnifying glass under a lamp for tiny insects.
- Be sure to disinfect pots when you transplant or change soil.
- Tight centers mean too much fertilizer or insects.
- To help maintain a healthy base to produce blooms later, remove all blossoms when you feed with nutrients which promote foliage growth.
- Remember violets prefer distilled or filtered water. They do not like softened water.

Begonias

Doris Smith, Alfred D. Robinson Begonia Society

- Use light porous soil to repot when needed. Only go one size pot larger. Check tubers, repot and add fresh soil. Stake as needed.
- Wash insects off with water.
- Pinch back once or twice and fertilize for more blooms and bushier canes.

Bonsai

Kora Dalager, San Diego Bonsai Club

- Monitor repotted trees for adequate watering. Adjust watering to warmer and drier weather.
- Water repotted trees from overhead, be sure both foliage and trunk are wetted.
- Wet down all bonsai on a regular basis to avert spider mites.
- Spray for insects. Use systemic sprays only as a last resort.
- Pinch back deciduous trees regularly; pinch back elms weekly if possible.
- Vigorous growing deciduous trees, such as trident maples and zelkovas may be defoliated and repotted in June. Keep repotted trees in the shade for at least three weeks.
- Cut back candles on black pines by mid June.
- Fertilize trees sparingly but consistently. Use an acid fertilizer on pines and azaleas.
- Rotate trees weekly to maintain proper shape.

Bromeliad

Mary Siemers, Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park

- Spray a high acid water-soluble fertilizer. Use at half the recommended strength. You can also spread Osmocote formula 14-14-14 over the soil. Use one teaspoon per six-inch pot. This will last four to six months. Do not use fish emulsion.
- Gradually increase watering as the weather warms up. Do not over water. Bromeliads do not like to have soggy roots.
- Use shade cloth or corrugated fiberglass to protect plants from direct summer sun and still allow lots of sunlight.
- Cut offsets when they are one-third to one-half the size of the mother plant. Pot them in a porous medium to create new plants.

Cacti and Succulents

Joyce Buckner, The Plant Man Nursery in Old Town

- Late spring is the best time to repot cacti and succulents and make new succulent dish gardens.
- Choose containers with adequate drainage. Drainage holes need to be at the lowest point of the bottom of the pot. Pots that are unglazed on the inside with "legs" giving drainage a bit of clearance are the best for succulent plants.
- Cover the drainage holes with screen (plastic or fiberglass) to keep the soil in and let the water out.
- Use a light porous soil mix. Soil should not contain any decomposing material that may cause rot. Tightly squeeze a handful of soil in your fist. If it clumps together add more pumice, perlite or crushed lava stone to insure proper drainage.
- Cactus and cactus-like euphorbias should be kept dry and protected (filtered light) for about a week before watering. Water succulents thoroughly and immediately after re-potting.
- Allow soil to get fairly dry after watering to promote root growth and a stronger, healthier plant.
- Cover newly potted plants with a piece of window screen for a few weeks if containers are located in strong/full sun.



PHOTO: RACHEL COBB

San Diego Floral Association

ANNUAL HISTORIC GARDEN TOUR

Join us June 6 from 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. as we tour six special, historic gardens: three in Banker's Hill and three in Point Loma. For \$15 (\$20 day of the tour) tour takers will experience unique garden grounds—including a garden designed by SDFA pioneers Milton Sessions and Roland Hoyt, complete with their original landscape plans—and have access to horticultural vendors, Master Gardeners, a complementary wine reception at the French Garden Shoppe and more.

The day promises to be full
of fun so **don't miss out!**



Ticket Information

To purchase your tickets for the Garden Tour, please send a check to the San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado Room 105, San Diego CA 92101-1684. Tickets for the Garden Tour will also be available for sale starting April 15 at these fine locations: Walter Andersen Nurseries, Mission Hills Nursery, Kniffing Nursery, Cedros Gardens and Weider Nursery. If you have any questions about the tour, please contact the SDFA office at 619-232-5762 or visit sdfloral.org.

Camellias

Sharon Lee, San Diego Camellia Society

- May is the time to apply the second of your three annual fertilizer applications. The easiest way to remember the dates is St. Patrick's Day, Memorial Day and the Fourth of July. Mix blood meal with cottonseed meal at the ratio of one part blood to four parts cottonseed. Use one tablespoon for a one gallon-sized plant and up to two cups for very large in-ground plants. It is also recommended to add chelated iron at this time. You can also use a pre-mixed camellia/azalea fertilizer. Follow application rates on container. If you missed the first application, just start feeding now.
- Keep your camellias watered. While camellias are not water-hungry, they don't like to dry out. Regular watering is the best practice. Deep watering a few times throughout the year to flush accumulated salts from the Colorado River water is also a good idea.
- Mulch plants to conserve water and keep roots moist. Camellias have shallow root systems, and mulching helps keep these shallow roots moist. It is critical, however, to keep the mulch two or so inches away from the trunk. Camellias do not like the immediate area around the trunk covered.
- Prune unwanted new growth.
- Be on the lookout for insects. You can hose off aphids. Check with your local Master Gardener hotline or nursery for organic solutions to other insects. Camellias generally do not have many insect problems.

Dahlias

Dave Tooley, San Diego Dahlia Society

- Feed with a low nitrogen fertilizer (4-10-10).
- Spray weekly to control insects. Watch for leaf miners, thrips and aphids. Try systemic; if spraying, use a weak solution on new foliage.
- Water when top of soil is dry. Soak deeply and often when buds are forming.
- Plant new varieties and give regular growing care.
- Draw the soil up around each plant as they grow.
- Pinch out centers of plants when two or three sets of leaves have developed.

Epiphyllums

Phil Peck, San Diego Epiphyllum Society

- Prune plants to shape by cutting at a node or close to the soil line. Plant cuttings after flowering.
- Bait for snails and slugs. Use ultra fine horticultural oil for scale.
- Wilted flowers that don't drop may be cut just above the branch node to give new buds more room to open.
- Start new cuttings or repot crowded plants.
- Keep soil damp. Do not allow plants to dry out.
- Use a three-month balanced fertilizer.
- Many epis do well on a trellis; stake long, spindly growth.
- Protect foliage from hot summer sun.



PHOTO: RACHEL COBB

Ferns

Bob Halley, San Diego Fern Society

- Remove all old dead fronds.
- Keep humidity up. Most ferns are starting full growth now. Water frequently.
- Fertilize with half-strength, high-nitrogen liquid or slow release pellets.
- Spray for aphids, thrips and scale. Spread snail and slug bait as needed.
- Treat for giant white fly by wiping off egg spirals.
- Collect and sow spores.

Fruit Trees and Vines

Vincent Lazaneo, Urban Horticulture Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension

- Check citrus and other hosts of diapaepes root weevil for semi-circular notches along the edges of new leaves. For photos and quarantine information see www.cdfa.ca.gov and enter "Diapaepes map" in search box. Click on regulations. Call 800-491-1899 to report possible infestation.
- Irrigate trees thoroughly as needed to maintain adequate soil moisture. Apply water around mature trees in a broad band beginning one-third of the distance from the tree to the tree's drip line and extending out beyond the drip line a few feet. Apply enough water to wet the soil at least two feet deep (about three inches of water on a loam soil).
- Remove grass and weeds from soil under the tree's canopy.
- Apply a layer of coarse organic mulch on the soil under trees to conserve moisture.
- Keep mulch at least one foot away from trunk to protect trees from crown rot.
- Complete thinning apples, pears and stone fruit after "June drop."
- Remove any suckers growing from rootstock (below the graft union).
- Wash trees periodically with a forceful spray of water to remove dust, honeydew and pests like aphids, whiteflies and spider mites.
- Spray walnuts with carbaryl (Sevin) when nuts are about the size of a nickel and again three weeks later to control codling moth larvae (wormy nuts).
- Control ants, which protect aphids and other sap-feeding insects; visit www.ipm.ucdavis.edu for Pest Notes on ants and other garden pests.

Herbs

John Noble, Coastal Sage Gardening

- Pull out spent winter annuals such as borage and calendula.
- Prune back perennial herbs Mexican marigold and rosemary.
- Plant basil, cayenne, parsley, valerian, feverfew and chamomile.
- Harvest yerba mansa, mint, elderberry flowers and lavender blossoms.

Irises

Leon Vogel, San Diego/Imperial Counties Iris Society

- Allow cut surfaces of rhizomes to dry and be exposed to sunlight before planting or give a light dusting of soil sulfur. They may also be placed in a vitamin B solution for a while.
- Make sure all iris labels match their name (check bloom description).
- Cut stalks near the ground when finished blooming.
- Feed heavily (one tbsp. per rhizome) with a 6-20-20 mix when bloom season is over.
- Keep watering.
- Check for aphids and leaf rust.
- Prepare beds for planting. Work in humus, soil sulfur and decomposed manure.
- Feed spurias with low-nitrogen fertilizer.
- Feed Siberians after blooming with a balanced food. Dig and transplant after June.
- Feed Japanese irises with camellia food; add to water in which they are growing.

Native Plants

John Noble, Coastal Sage Gardening

- Most native plants can go three to four weeks between watering. Riparian natives need to be watered once or twice a week. Wash the dust off shrubs and trees with a quick shower once a month.
- Harvest wildflower seeds.
- Pull out or weed whack wildflowers after they dry.
- Mulch with shredded bark or gravel around plants.
- Keep planting at a minimum until next fall.



PHOTO: RACHEL COBB



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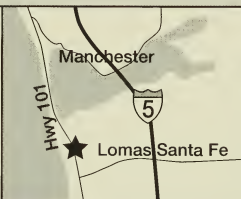
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UPCOMING MEETINGS:

**May 11: From Garden to Table: Delicious Tips
from the Experts**

Five experts will speak about their edible specialties. May is a
great time to plant your edibles, so bring a friend and plan to
purchase plants, seeds and books to get yourself off to a good
start. Karan Cooper shares her expertise with heirloom tomatoes.
Ramiro Lobo discusses challenges and opportunities in growing
Southern Highbush blueberries. Karen England will talk about
herbs. Mia Yamada McCarville, owner of Cedros Gardens in
Solana Beach will talk about growing Asian vegetables. Tom
Del Hotal will present several exotic fruits we can grow here.
Members free, non-members \$5.

Info: sdhortsoc.org or (760) 295-7089

San Diego Horticultural Society presents

A Special Evening with the inspiring George Little & David Lewis "The Garden as Companion"

Monday, June 8, 7:00pm

Doors open 6:15pm for book & plant sales

Convenient Mission Valley Location:
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Little and Lewis will speak of their experience in developing
this deep companionship. Website has details.



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\$20/non-members

Order at
www.SDHortSoc.org

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bring your friends!**

Info: (760) 295-7089

Orchids

Christopher Croom, San Diego County Orchid Society

- Reed-stemmed epidendrums will be in flower for a few more months.
- Protect plants from sun damage as temperatures start to increase.
- Finish repotting. Be sure to soak planting medium first this late in the season.
- Water more as plants increase their growth rate. Give extra water to mounted plants because they do not retain moisture.
- Bring some indoor plants outside for the summer.
- Watch for insect infestations and spray to prevent disease.

Pelargoniums

Jim Zemcik, San Diego Geranium Society

- Avoid unnecessary pruning or cutting.
- Remove dead or damaged leaves to prevent molds and fungus.
- Watch for geranium rust. Treat with non-sulfur-based rust inhibitor/eradicator such as Immunox. Sulfur-based rust products are ineffective on geranium rust.
- Keep the soil moist and the foliage dry. Many geraniums will drop their lower leaves if they get too dry.
- Apply a good commercial fertilizer at two-week intervals. Use at one-third to one-half recommended strength.
- Deadhead as soon as blooms pass their peak.
- Guard against whitefly, budworm and aphids. Use a product that contains both an insecticide and fungicide. Follow manufacturer's recommendations and keep preventive control on a steady, continuous schedule.
- Keep pots out of full sun. Protect plants from severe sun damage.
- Rotate plants to keep them well-shaped and covered with blooms.

Plumeria

Frank Zotter, Southern California Plumeria Society

- Move potted plants from protected winter areas to warm full sun.
- Start watering and fertilizing with a low nitrogen fertilizer like 3-12-12.
- Take cuttings and prune: prune only to shape the plant.
- Repot plants and "top up" larger plants; this is to replace the soil with a fresh and revitalized mix. Use one-half cactus mix, one-fourth #3 perlite and one-fourth worm compost. Keep soil at same level as before.
- Expect first new blooms from last season's remaining inflorescence.

Roses

Al Heck, San Diego Rose Society

- Deadhead stems and canes when blooms are spent. Remember that new canes can never be greater than the diameter of the cane from which they sprout.
- Blossom rot, or Botrytis fungus shows up as brown dead spots on the blooms. Control it with fungicides such as Compass, Cleary's or Mancozeb.
- Protect new growth from bud unions or the large canes at the base of the plant. These basals will replace the older canes you may want to prune away in December/January.
- Water well as the heat increases. Roses need one inch of water twice a week this time of year. Potted roses need even more.
- Spray wash the bushes before 10:00 a.m. to control powdery mildew or spray with a powdery mildew fungicide according to the label instructions.
- Feed both your roses and your soil microbes. Use a balanced regimen of half inorganic fertilizers and half organic fertilizers.

Vegetables

Vincent Lazaneo, Urban Horticulture Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension

- Plant warm-season crops, requiring warm weather and soil for rapid growth: beans, corn, cucurbits (cucumbers, gourds, luffas, melons, squash), peanuts, peppers, sunflowers, tomatoes and tender herbs (basil).
- Plant pumpkins in early June for Halloween.
- Stop watering onions and garlic grown for bulbs when leaves begin to turn yellow. Dig bulbs when tops have fallen over and place in a shady, well ventilated area to cure.
- Apply nitrogen fertilizer. For every ten feet of row, apply one-third to one-half cup of ammonium sulfate or one-fourth cup of ammonium nitrate alongside the row a few inches from the plants and the irrigate thoroughly.
- Check plants for pests. Spray or dust tomatoes lightly with sulfur when plants are one-foot tall to control russet mites and powdery mildew. Wrap paper collars around stems of tomato transplants when planted to protect from cut worms.
- Visit <http://virc.ucdavis.edu> for more information about growing vegetable crops.

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San Diego County Orchid Society

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6:30 PM, Room 104

General Meeting:

7:30 PM, Room 101

www.sdorchids.com



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The Garden Trellis

Historic and practical gardening solution

By Lucy Warren

With increasing urban density, yards and gardens are growing smaller and smaller, yet we still want to optimize our enjoyment of our small corner of green space. So how does anyone take best advantage of that precious plot? Despite our amazement and delight at the “new” topic of vertical gardening, this solution harkens back to at least the early Roman empire and possibly earlier in Asian culture. Growing plants up rather than out literally adds another dimension to the garden.

History

We really don’t know how it all began, which ancient had the brilliant ‘aha’ moment and began finding ways to provide manmade structures to support climbing plants. Our word “trellis” is derivative from Latin *trilicium* meaning three threads, describing a strong woven fabric. Indeed, the structure itself is generally akin to a woven pattern and very strong so as to support twining and vining plants. When grown out the trellis becomes more dense as these plants add their threads in weaving their way upward.

Trellises are mentioned by Roman philosopher Pliny the Younger (61–113 A.D.) in garden letters and are recorded pictorially in the frescos of Pompeii and Herculaneum of the same era. Left unrecorded for a long period, the trellis is evidenced again during medieval times with reference to the use of the “herber” (arbor), this time used more as living walls creating a more private area of the garden providing “seclusion and sweet smelling plants.” Thus the open-built structure supports the plants that create living walls that finitely define garden areas.

Famous art historian Horace Walpole (1717–1797) admired the trellis structure, noting in his essay *On Modern Gardening: Roman Gardens*, “Those treillages in the gardens at Paris, particularly on the Boulevard, have a gay and delightful effect. They form light corridors and transpicuous arbours through which the sun beams play and checker the shade, set off the statues vases and flowers, that marry with their gaudy hotels, and suit the gallant and idle society who paint the walks

between their parterres, and realize the fantastic scenes of Watteau and Duefe.” So here is the trellis as an art form.

Somewhat later, in 1905, interior designer Elsie de Woolfe nearly created a scandal when she built a garden trellis inside the Colony Club in New York by attaching the lath to the interior walls. But not long afterward it was considered high style to bring the wooden garden trellis indoors as a decorative element for light filled garden rooms. Soon those less venturous could select from a range of trellis-patterned wallpapers.

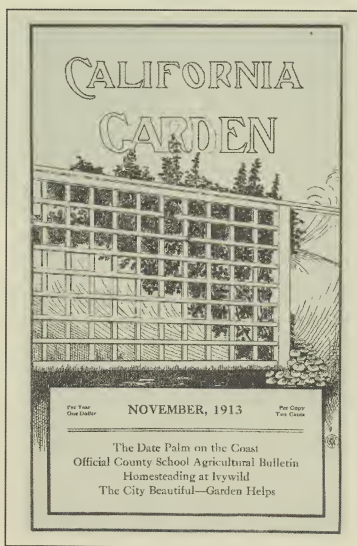
As *California Garden* was becoming a force during the Arts and Crafts period, the trellis was an established iconic garden element of the then modern garden. An illustration of a typical Arts and Crafts trellis of the period first graced our magazine cover in July, 1913. Chinese- and Japanese-themed gardens of the era were hardly complete without the look-through aspect afforded by the space-defining trellis. And with the addition of a roof, “garden room” trellised spaces became comfortable pergolas.

Structure

While the purpose is the same, the form of a trellis may vary. Our common first image of a trellis is a lattice-like braced vertical form, the crosspieces most frequently on a diagonal, depicting a

diamond shaped pattern or crossed on the horizontal/vertical axis, creating rectangles or squares. Fan trellises often grace large pots when growing vines in the pots. Arching bentwood trellises structured from green wood may look rustic to sophisticated. While the simple geometric shapes are most common, more elaborate ones do the same job and qualify for the same designation.

Materials may vary considerably. A quick search on the Internet reveals trellises made of wood, vinyl, copper or iron in formed patterns. Some people make them at home using wood lath, bamboo, preformed panels in wood or plastic vinyl, metal forms or even wires. The wooden forms do not heat up as much in direct sun. Metal ones may stunt plant growth when exposed to full sun. A somewhat more unusual metal trellis form for a large eco-friendly casual garden consists of one or more sets of discarded bed springs placed upright against a column or wall.



Trellis featured in an early issue of *California Garden*.



Size is purely subjective and dependent on intended function. A trellis may be as small as to support a single annual vine. It may be large enough to provide shade, visual relief or closure for a particular garden spot. Or, it may even extend for a great distance as a living wall, defining a walkway or providing a cool transit and respite from summer sun.

Whatever the shape, size or material, unless the trellis is quite small it needs to be well braced at the top, bottom and sides and anchored well in the ground to support both the weight of the structure and of the growing vines.

Some people just use the lattice in a trellis form as a visual element in their garden, possibly to hide an eyesore, to extend the height of a fence or even just to shade a wall, but most are planted out.

Once you have your trellis you can look forward to selecting from an amazing number of plants willing and able to mount that structure. Be prepared, for this venture will be interactive. Your trellis will have a finite height and breadth, which will not necessarily conform to the volume or form of the plant which will be growing upward. You will be training, taming and pruning the plants to size and shape.

Climbing Plants

Not all climbers are the same. They are, by nature, adventitious plants. While they take little ground space, they cover vertical space with leaves, flowers—even fruits and vegetables—all putting their energy into height rather than structure. In nature most climbers are woodland plants, relying on others for support as they reach for light. Their bases are generally in shadow of trees or other larger plants, roots cooled by shadow and natural mulch of fallen leaves. Their flowers bloom toward the sunlight. Think about this when you position your trellis and select your plants. For optimal color consider facing the trellis with a southern or westward exposure.

Climbing plants have varied and ingenious ways of reaching their altitude. Some vines, such as ivy, have aerial roots or small sucker pads. Others, such as climbing roses or bougainvillea, simply grow outward hoping to find support. For this type, the plant will eventually grow in a mound if support is not found.

More specialized are tendril-climbing plants—grapes and sweet peas come immediately to mind. Specialized leafless stalks grow outward, curling when they sense a surface they can wind around. Clematis don't have the specialized leafless stalks, but their leaf stems or petioles will quickly encircle a support.

Most common are climbing plants that grow in a spiral fashion. The faster growth on one side of the stem creates a curling motion that can encircle and take advantage of a vertical support. Some grow in a clockwise direction and some grow in a counterclockwise direction. As example, spiraling direction is one of the defining botanical variations in different species of wisteria.

For each type of climbing plant there are both woody perennial plants and herbaceous ones. Of the herbaceous, some are annuals that reseed each year and others are more like deciduous plants which die back and regrow. Convolvulus or morning glories, for example, grow from tubers. While the flowers and foliage die back in cool weather, the tuber puts forth new growth each spring and grows higher and more vigorously each year.



PHOTO: LUCY WARREN

Ideas to Consider

Vegetable gardeners can gain valuable garden space by supporting and trellising far reaching plants, such as their cucurbits (squash, cucumbers, melons and gourds). Those with heavy fruits may need support of the fruit—nylon slings from old pantyhose can lend support to melons and squash. If the plants do not climb naturally, they may be tied progressively upward on the support. Pole beans and peas are natural climbers and will easily twine around strings or other light supports. Yams or sweet potatoes have an attractive vine and flowers with the bonus of the edible root. Indeterminate tomato plants, such as cherry types benefit from support, but need to be tied to attain upright stance. Grapes and kiwi need stronger supports.

If you are envisioning English vine covered cottages and thirsty plants while you are trying to save water, don't despair. Native plant specialist and guru, Greg Rubin of California's Own Native Landscape Design (www.calowndesign.com) suggests a number of attractive choices indigenous to our climate. "We have three native species of creamy white flowered clematis that all sport impressive seed heads." Consider a trellis filled with deciduous *Vitis californica* 'Roger's Red' a marvelous native California wild grape with beautiful leaves. Enjoy a California morning glory, *Calystegia macrostegia*—the selection 'Anacapa Pink' is a delicate shade that is evergreen near the coast and comes from the Channel Island of the same name. Or, if you prefer a more purplish flower, *Calystegia purpuratus* tends to be more evergreen. *Keckiella cordifolia* or climbing penstemon may need a little assist and tying to your trellis, but who can resist a drought tolerant plant with spring to summer red-orange tubular abelia-like flowers. Two selections which need regular water but good drainage are the unusual California pipe vine (*Aristolochia californica*)—which prefers part shade—and the delightful snapdragon vine (*Maurandya antirrhiniflora*)—a tender, delicate vine with magenta to blue-purple flowers.

Planting complementary vines can extend the blooming season of the trellis. Compatible plants such as a climbing rose and a clematis may be utilized on the same support without competing and enhance one another with complementary blooming cycles.

That said, there is a tendency to plant trellises with too many plants. As they mature, the plants become less manageable and require more care. Try to remember to plant with an eye to the future. While the trellis may look spare for a couple of seasons, your patience will be rewarded in healthier plants and optimizing your garden care.

In a similar caution, woody perennials may overrun your trellis space within a few years. As the trunks become heavier they may break any inadequate supports. Again, research the ultimate size of your trellis plants before you plant them, and build the trellis support to accommodate the future needs of the plants.

Resources

There are numerous books written addressing vines and climbing plants. Local landscape architect Kay Stewart recommends, *Flowering, Fruiting and Foliage Vines* by Crandall and Crandall. Another excellent resource for ideas, *Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions* by Roland Hoyt (available for \$5 from the San Diego Floral Association), offers lists of alternative plants for many different needs and conditions.



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SDFA Calendar

A listing of the best gardening-related activities in the county for May and June 2009

May Events

MAY 1

VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Plant sales and fellowship, who could ask for anything more!

When: 12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.

Where: Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Yale Terrace Dr. Vista

More Information: www.vistagardenclub.org

MAY 2

VISTA GARDEN CLUB FLOWER SHOW

Everyone is welcome to this free and fun event!

When: 2:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m., Sunday, May 3, 2009, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Where: Bringle Terrace Park Recreation Center, 1200 Yale Terrace, Vista

More Information: www.vistagardenclub.org

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY PLANT SALE

Expand your epiphyllum collection by attending this plant sale.

When: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Where: Nairobi Village, San Diego Wild Animal Park

More Information: www.epiphyllum.com

SAN DIEGO IRIS SOCIETY SPRING SHOW AND SALE

See the County's best irises and take home a plant from this show and sale.

When: 1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. (Sat. May 2), 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Sun. May 3)

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 760-788-1376

MAY 3

EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY

The meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome.

When: 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Where: Member's Gardens (contact group for locations)

More Information: 619-447-4131, www.eastcountyrosesociety.com

MAY 4

PALOMAR DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FLORAL DESIGN FORUM

Featuring Jim Johnson, author, lecturer and director of the Benz School of Floral Design at Texas A&M College. Cost is \$8.

When: 12:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

Where: Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad

More Information: 760-494-7774, www.carlsbadgardenclub.com

MAY 5

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING

Come join the fun!

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 619-294-5925

MAY 6

SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB MEETING

Monthly meeting features speakers, herbal crafts and workshops.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 519-579-0222

MAY 9

MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB WALK

A self-guided tour of private gardens in beautiful Mission Hills. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 the day of the walk; walk happens rain or shine.

When: 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Where: Begin at Mission Hills Nursery, 1525 Fort Stockton Dr., San Diego

More Information: www.missionhillsgardenclub.org

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY MEETING

Three Bromeliad Personalities, Victoria Padilla, Werner Rauh, Ed Hummell, join us.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: www.bsi.org

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MEETING

All persons with an interest in cacti and succulents are invited!

When: 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 619-795-1020, www.sdcss.com

2
DAYS

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SALE

"Epics through the Decades." Saturday is the pre-Mother's Day Plant & Cuttings Sale, Sunday is the annual Mother's Day Plant & Cuttings Sale.

When: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Sat. May 9), 11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Sun. May 10)

Where: Courtyard (Sat.), Room 101 (Sun.), Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: www.epiphyllum.com

MAY 11

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING

"From Garden to Table: Delicious Tips from the Experts," featuring a panel of five speakers. Admittance for members is free, non-members \$5.

When: 6:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar

More information: www.sdhortsoc.org

MAY 12

BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK MEETING

Come learn about this interesting plant.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: jdoss12345@aol.com

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB MEETING

"Perennials and Drought Tolerant Plants" by Judy Wigand.

When: 12:00 p.m.

Where: St. Stephen Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center

More information: www.dosvallesgardenclub.org

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING

Bring a friend, bring a plant for raffle and enjoy!

When: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 619-447-8243, www.sdgeranium.org

MAY 13

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Join them for their monthly meeting.

When: 9:30 a.m. Hospitality; 10:00 a.m. Meeting

Where: Bonita Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita

More Information: Darlene Montgomery, 619-267-1585, dmontg@live.com

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

"A Camera in Your Garden"—Lynlee Austell, Barbara Smith and Kathy Hargrove will give tips and techniques to capture your garden's memories.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego

More Information: www.plgc.org

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING

General membership meeting and mini flower show.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: www.epiphyllum.com

2
DAYS

MAY 16

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY SHOW

See what's new with geraniums at this informative show and sale.

When: 12 p.m.–4:00 p.m. (Sat. May 16), 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Sun. May 17)

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 619-447-8243, www.sdgeranium.org

MAY 18

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY MEETING

Monthly meeting and potluck!

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 619-462-5753, www.sdrosesociety.org

MAY 19

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Programs, friends and more.

When: 1:30 p.m.

Where: La Jolla Lutheran Church, 7111 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla

More Information: Fran Schein, 858-488-5618

MAY 19 *continued*

RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Celebrate spring with us!

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: 1077 Vista Madera, El Cajon

More Information: Connie Beck, 619-749-4059

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING

Learn about native flora and the use of native plants in the garden.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 760-434-5033, www.cnpssd.org

MAY 20

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY MEETING

Non-members are welcome guests.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe, Carlsbad

More Information: 858-748-8355

MAY 21

BERNARDO GARDENERS CLUB MEETING

Marion Stacey, licensed CA Wildlife Rehabilitator, will explain how to enjoy and support local and migratory birds.

When: 1:00 p.m.

Where: Please call, as meeting sites may vary.

More Information: 858-673-8728, www.bernardogardeners.org

CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Come join in the fun!

When: 11:45 a.m.

Where: Norman Park Senior Center, 270 F St., Chula Vista

More Information: Marilyn Saleny, 619-656-8669

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB MEETING

"Behind the Garden Gate."

When: 9:30 a.m.

Where: Contact for meeting location

More Information: www.dosvallesgardenclub.org

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING

Come learn about this elegant plant.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 619-464-2609, www.sdferrn.com

MAY 23

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP SHOW

Come see the best in bromeliads at this show and sale.

When: 12:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. (Sat., May 23), 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Sun. May 24)

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 858-453-6486 (weekends only)

MAY 24

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY MEETING

Come, learn and enjoy!

When: 1:00 p.m.

Where: Room 102, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 619-443-4795

MAY 25

CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY MEETING

Everything you wanted to know about African Violets.

When: 10:30 a.m.

Where: Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Ave., Vista

More information: 760-295-0484

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB GENERAL MEETING

Water wise your garden with the help of a Cuyamaca Conservation Garden expert.

When: 9:15 a.m. Refreshments, 9:45 a.m. Meeting and Program

Where: The Winn Room, Coronado Library, Coronado

More Information: www.bridgeandbaygardenclub.org

LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB

Layla Hains from the San Diego Museum of Natural History presents "Seeing Climate through the Lives of Plants."

When: 2:00 p.m.

Where: Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Dr.

More Information: www.lhnpc.org

MAY 26

BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Go organic with the help of this group.

When: 6:30 p.m.

Where: Bonita Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Road

More information: 619-479-9838

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Fall- and winter-blooming salvias with Andy Maycen, host of the *Down to Earth* television program.

When: 12:30 p.m. Social, 1:00 p.m. General Meeting

Where: Fallbrook Community Center, 341 Herald Lane

More Information: www.fallbrookgardenclub.org

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY

The SD County Dahlia Society welcomes new members!

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 858-672-2593

MAY 27

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS—SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING

Learn how to select and grow rare fruit in San Diego.

When: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: David Yetz, 619-659-8788

MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Monthly meetings are free to members. Guests are welcome with admission fee of \$10 for non-members.

When: 6:00 p.m. Social; 6:30 p.m. Meeting and Speaker

Where: Mission Hills United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackdaw St., San Diego

More Information: www.missionhillsgardenclub.org

SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Jessie Fell will speak about "Living Wreaths."

When: 9:30 a.m. Social; 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Meeting

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, Encinitas

More Information: Rita Koczela, President, 760-436-3036

More information: www.sdgc.klmmicro.com

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119

Come for floral arrangements and lectures.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 858-673-3535, hiropan8@san.rr.com

MAY 28

VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA MEETING

This Members only meeting will feature Jeffrey Bale, "Stone Art and Mosaics."

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Torrey Pines Christian Church, 8320 La Jolla Scenic Dr. No., La Jolla

More information: Ann Craig, 858-454-4117, www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com

MAY 30

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB GARDEN TOUR

Join in for the 5th Annual Garden Tour. Tickets are \$20 or two for \$35.

When: 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Where: Fallbrook Historical Society, 260 Rockycrest Road, Fallbrook

More Information: www.fallbrookgardenclub.org

JUNE 2

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING

Join the SD County Orchid Society—they make learning fun!

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 619-294-5925

JUNE 3

SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB MEETING

Monthly meeting features speakers, herbal crafts and workshops.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 519-579-0222

JUNE 5

CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB GARDEN TOUR

Join the Carlsbad group for their annual garden tour. After the tour they'll enjoy a no host luncheon at a local restaurant.

When: 9:30 a.m.

Where: Meet at Sears Park and Ride to organize into carpools.

More Information: 760-494-7774, www.carlsbadgardenclub.com

2
DAYS

MAY 23

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP SHOW

Come see the best in bromeliads at this show and sale.

When: 12:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. (Sat., May 23), 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Sun. May 24)

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 858-453-6486 (weekends only)

MAY 24

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY MEETING

Come, learn and enjoy!

When: 1:00 p.m.

Where: Room 102, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 619-443-4795

MAY 25

CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY MEETING

Everything you wanted to know about African Violets.

When: 10:30 a.m.

Where: Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Ave., Vista

More information: 760-295-0484

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB GENERAL MEETING

Water wise your garden with the help of a Cuyamaca Conservation Garden expert.

When: 9:15 a.m. Refreshments, 9:45 a.m. Meeting and Program

Where: The Winn Room, Coronado Library, Coronado

More Information: www.bridgeandbaygardenclub.org

LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB

Layla Hains from the San Diego Museum of Natural History presents "Seeing Climate through the Lives of Plants."

When: 2:00 p.m.

Where: Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Dr.

More Information: www.lhnpc.org

JUNE 5 continued

VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Come for the plant sale, stay for the fellowship.

When: 12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.

Where: Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace Dr. Vista

More Information: www.vistagardenclub.org

JUNE 6

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW

Come appreciate and buy cacti and succulents at the annual Plant Show and Sale.

When: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (Sat. June 6), 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Sun. June 7)

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 619-795-1020, www.sdscss.com

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION HISTORIC GARDEN TOUR

Join us for our annual historic self-guided garden tour; this year we feature gardens in Bankers Hill and Point Loma. Proceeds provide funds for our educational programs, scholarships and a publication honoring 100 years of *California Garden* magazine. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 day of the tour.

When: 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Where: Contact for more details.

More Information: 619-232-5762, www.sdfllora.org

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY ANNUAL ROSE SALE

Add to your garden with the roses offered at this sale. Admission is \$5 and includes admission to the show and guided rose garden tours. Children 8 and under admitted free; parking is free.

When: 12:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.

Where: Barona Valley Ranch Resort & Casino, 1932 Wildcat Canyon Road, Lakeside

More Information: 619-462-5753, www.sdrosesociety.org

JUNE 7

HON NON BO ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Hon Non Bo Association holds its bi-monthly meeting.

When: 10:30 a.m.

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 858-689-0957

EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY

The meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome.

When: 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Where: Contact for meeting locations

More information: 619-447-4131, www.eastcountyrosesociety.com

JUNE 8

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SPECIAL EVENT

"The Garden as Companion," featuring George Little and David Lewis of the Little and Lewis Sculpture Garden, Bainbridge Island, WA. Tickets are \$15 for SDHS members and \$20 for non-members.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Scottish Rite Event Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South, San Diego

More Information: www.sdhortsoc.org

JUNE 9

BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK MEETING

Come to learn more about these lovely plants.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: jdoss12345@aol.com

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING

Bring a friend, bring a plant for raffle and enjoy!

When: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 619-447-8243, www.sdggeranium.org

JUNE 10

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Join them for their monthly meeting.

When: 9:30 a.m. Hospitality; 10:00 a.m. Meeting

Where: Bonita Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita

More Information: Darlene Montgomery, 619-267-1585, dmontg@live.com

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING

Come join in and learn about epiphyllums. A special drawing is held among attending members, and all first-time guests are welcomed with a free four-inch potted epi (sign in to be eligible).

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: www.epiphyllum.com

JUNE 12

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR

Head to the fair! Enjoy the Paul Ecke Jr. Flower and Garden Show and other events, competitions and cuisine.

When: June 12 through July 5 (closed 6/15 & 6/22); contact for specific times

Where: Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar

More Information: www.sdfair.com

JUNE 13

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY SALE

Bromeliads galore! Come to the SDBS Plant Sale!

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: www.bsvi.org

JUNE 14

OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING

Argentine tango demonstration, flower containers, silent auction and more.

When: 11:30 a.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: www.oharaschoolsandiego.org

JUNE 15

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB

Come, learn and join our club!

When: 10:30 a.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 619-699-8776, www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY MEETING

Cultivating tips from experts who know our climate and roses.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 619-462-5753, www.sdrosesociety.org

JUNE 16

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING

Learn about native flora and the use of native plants in the garden.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 760-434-5033, www.cnpsd.org

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Programs, friends and more.

When: 1:30 p.m.

Where: La Jolla Lutheran Church, 7111 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla

More Information: Fran Scheinbein, 858-488-5618

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

Paul Maschka will speak on "Organic Farming in Urban Spaces."

Visitors are welcome!

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 619-232-5762, www.sdfllora.org

JUNE 18

CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB

Come join in the fun!

When: 11:45 a.m.

Where: Norman Park Senior Center, 270 F St., Chula Vista

More Information: Marilyn Saleny, 619-656-8669

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY

Non-members are welcome guests.

When: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe, Carlsbad

More Information: 858-748-8355

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING

Come learn about this verdant plant.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 619-464-2609, www.sdffern.com

JUNE 20

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE

Add to your garden with the help of this sale.

When: 8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Where: Martin Gang Ranch, 28922 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center

More Information: www.dosvallesgardenclub.org

JUNE 20 *continued*

MASTER GARDENER 6TH ANNUAL SUMMER PLANT SALE

Learn something new while picking up a plant.

When: 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 858-694-2860, www.mastergardenerssandiego.org

JUNE 22

CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY MEETING

Please join us!

When: 10:30 a.m.

Where: Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Ave., Vista

More Information: 760-295-0484

PALOMAR DISTRICT MEETING SUMMER ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

A very important meeting for all incoming garden club presidents to attend!

When: Coffee and pastry 9:30 a.m.; Board Meeting 10:00 a.m.

Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: Director Jerry Thirloway, 858-755-3284

JUNE 23

BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Go organic with the help of this group.

When: 6:30 p.m.

Where: Bonita Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Road

More information: 619-479-9838

SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Join the San Carlos Garden Club at its general meeting.

When: 9:30 a.m.

Where: St. Dunstan's, 6556 Park Ridge Rd., San Carlos

More Information: 619-448-3613

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY MEETING

The SD Dahlia Society welcomes new members!

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 858-672-2593

JUNE 24

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS—SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING

Learn how to select and grow rare fruit in San Diego.

When: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: David Yetz, 619-659-8788

MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Monthly meetings are free to members. Guests are welcome with admission fee of \$10 for non-members.

When: 6:00 p.m. Social; 6:30 p.m. Meeting and Speaker

Where: Mission Hills United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackdaw St., San Diego

More Information: www.missionhillsgardenclub.org

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119 MEETING

Come for floral arrangements and lectures.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More Information: 858-673-3535, hiropan8@san.rr.com

SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Cultivate friendships through gardening!

When: 9:30 a.m. Social; 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Meeting

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, Encinitas

More Information: Rita Koczela, President, 760-436-3036, www.sdgc.klmicro.com

JUNE 28

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY

Enjoy the pleasure of plumerias!

When: 1:00 p.m.

Where: Room 102, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

More information: 619-443-4795

Gardening Classes

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, PT. LOMA GARDENING CLASS

Learn a variety of gardening tricks every Saturday morning by attending a free class at Walter Andersen Nursery's Pt. Loma Nursery. Please contact the store for a schedule of events.

When: 9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Walter Andersen's Pt. Loma, 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego

More Information: www.walterandersen.com

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, POWAY GARDENING CLASS

Come join others at Walter Andersen's Poway store for a free, weekly seasonal garden lecture. Please contact the store for a schedule of events.

When: 9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Walter Andersen's Poway, 12755 Danielson Court, Poway

More Information: www.walterandersen.com

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN CLASSES

The Water Conservation Garden provides a number of entertaining, information-packed courses covering the most topical gardening topics and presented by skilled and knowledgeable experts. Please contact the Water Conservation Garden for program details and any applicable fees.

When: Contact for program-specific times.

Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon

More Information: www.thegarden.org, 619-660-0614, x10

Walks, Tours & Garden Events

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS TOUR

Come and meet at the Visitor's Center for a weekly tour of the Quail Botanical Gardens. No reservations required. Free with admission.

When: 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas

More Information: www.qbgardens.org

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS: CHILDREN'S EVENTS

The Quail Botanical Garden offers a number of events specially designed to entertain and educate children and their caregivers. Please contact Quail Botanical Gardens for a complete listing of their scheduled events.

When: Ongoing—contact for program-specific times.

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas

More Information: www.qbgardens.org

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN TOUR

Enjoy a docent-led tour of the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College.

When: Every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and every Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Where: Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon

More Information: <http://thegarden.org>

CNPS NATIVE PLANT WALK

Join landscape architect and member of the CNPS San Diego Chapter Kay Stewart for a two-hour, easy walk into Tecolote Canyon and back. Along the way you'll study and learn about the plants. This guided walk is free.

When: 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m., first Sunday of the month

Where: Tecolote Canyon Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road, San Diego

More Information: <http://cnpsd.org>

BUENA CREEK GARDENS FREE GARDEN TOUR

Join garden staff for this free, monthly garden tour.

When: 10:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m., second Saturday of each month

Where: Buena Creek Gardens, 418 Buena Creek Rd. San Marcos

More Information: www.buenacreekgardens.com

SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN

Come visit the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum's exquisite Asian garden.

When: 10:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday; 12:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m., Sunday

Where: San Diego Chinese Historical Museum and Garden, 404 3rd Ave., San Diego

More Information: www.scdhm.org/garden

Continued on page 35



SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library – Founded in 1907

1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684 619-232-5762 Located in Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park

Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California

**Mission Statement: To Promote The Knowledge And Appreciation
Of Horticulture And Floriculture In The San Diego Region.**

GENERAL MEETINGS

2009

February 17

April 21

June 16

October 20

Casa del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park, San Diego

OFFICERS

President

Nancy Carol Carter

First Vice President

Connie Brown

Second Vice President

Sandra Graff

Treasurer

Constance Whitney

Recording Secretary

Lynne Batchelor

Corresponding Secretary

Lucy Kramer

Historian

Thea Gums

Parliamentarian

Barbara P. Clark

DIRECTORS

Term 2006-2009

Laura Starr

Kay Harry

Term 2007-2010

Joanne Dossett

Michelle Kownacki

Linda Lindgren

Term 2008-2011

Sandra Dysart

Cheryl Gaidmore

Amy R. Wood

Arrangers Guild Chair

Suzanne Michel

AFFILIATES:

CHIRP FOR GARDEN WILDLIFE, INC.

Exec. Director: Maureen Austin

President: Lisa Lomax

P. O. Box 532

Alpine, CA 91903-0532

619-445-8352

www.chirp.org

CITY BEAUTIFUL OF SAN DIEGO

Pres: Kathy Ptoplava

P. O. Box 9424

San Diego, CA 92169-0424

858-576-3828

www.citybeautifulofsandiego.org

FRIENDS OF THE HORTENSE MILLER GARDEN

P. O. Box 742

Laguna Beach, CA 92652-0742

949-499-5518

marshab@fje.net

FRIENDS OF MARSTON GARDEN

Pres. Bobbie Bagel

San Diego Historical Society

1649 El Prado SD. 82101

619-232-6203

www.marstonhouse.org

Friends@marstonhouse.org

JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN BALBOA PARK

Contact: Luanne Lao

2125 Park Blvd.

San Diego, CA 92101-4792

619-232-2721

www.niwa.org

PALOMAR DISTRICT CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Director: Jerry Thirloway

1105 Santa Madera Ct.

Solana Beach, CA 92078-1620

858-755-3284

www.geocities.com/pgdargenclubs

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS FOUNDATION, INC

Executive Director: Julian Duval

P. O. Box 230005

Encinitas, CA 92023-0005

760-436-3036

info@qbgardens.org

www.qbgardens.org

SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN FOUNDATION

President: Ed Hamilton

2125 Park Blvd.

San Diego, CA 92101-4792

619-234-8901

www.sdbgf.org

Meets second Thursday at 7:30 p.m.,

Room 104, Casa del Prado,

Balboa Park

SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN

Executive Director:

Alexander Chuang

404 Third Ave.

San Diego, CA 92101-6803

619-338-9888

www.sdchm.org

SAN DIEGO ZOO

Horticulture Department

P. O. Box 120551

San Diego, CA 92112-0551

619-231-1515 Ext. 4298

www.sandiegozoo.org

SOUTHWESTERN JUDITH COUNCIL

Chair: Sandi Lord

P. O. Box 876

Pauma Valley, CA 92061-0876

760-727-7614

Meets first Wednesday

(Sep., Nov., Jan., Mar., May)

at 10:30 a.m., North County Fair,

Escondido, Community Room

TAKA SUMI-E SOCIETY

Contact: Takashi Ijichi

1455 49th Street

San Diego, CA 92102-2625

619-255-2501

takasumi-e@email.com

Meets first Sunday (Feb., Mar.,

Apr., Sep., Oct., Nov.) from 9:00

a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Casa del Prado

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN

Librarian: Joan Endres

12122 Cuyamaca College Dr. West,

El Cajon, CA 92019-4317

619-660-0614

info@thegarden.org

www.thegarden.org

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES:

CLASSIC GARDENS

P. O. Box 2711

La Jolla, CA 92038-2711

858-459-0316

MASTER LANDSCAPE SERVICES, INC.

3089C Clairmont Drive #296

San Diego, CA 92117-6802

619-296-9687

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR, PAUL ECKE JR. FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.

Del Mar, CA 92014-2216

www.sdfair.com

SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Contact: Darren Simon

4677 Overland Ave.

San Diego, CA 92123-1233

858-522-6600

www.sdcwa.org

JIM STELLUTI CONSULTING LANDSCAPE ARTIST

1928 Madison Ave.

San Diego, CA 92116-2722

619-298-7641

GARDEN CLUBS:

BERNARDO GARDENERS

President: Adele Kelly

P. O. Box 27179

San Diego, CA 92198-1179

858-673-8728

www.bernardogardeners.org

Meets third Thursday (except

Jun., Jul. and Aug.) at 1:00 p.m.

R. B. Swim & Tennis Club

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

President: Leslie Schroeder

2476 Eagle Valley Dr.

Chula Vista, CA 91914-4019

619-987-9257

Meets second Wednesday at

9:30 a.m., Bonita Public Library

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB

President: Pat Cooley

950 Olive Ave.

Coronado, CA 92118-2710

619-437-8227

Meets fourth Monday at 9:30 a.m.

Winn Room, Coronado

Public Library

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Foundation
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858-673-3635
hiropan8@san.rr.com
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djsj21643@aol.com
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Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-3119
818-986-4188
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7401 Jordan, Canoga Park

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San Diego, CA 92112-1390
760-434-5033
<http://cnpsd.org>
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Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

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619-294-5925
positedon_djb@juno.com
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creepyhollow@gmail.com
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Bonita Library Community Room,
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Pres: Joy Herzog
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619-443-4795
c.herzog@aol.net
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Meets third Sunday (Apr.-Oct.)
Call for meeting information.

Balboa Park Events

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When: 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m., third Friday of each month
Where: San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA
More Information: www.sandiegozoo.com

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When: 10:00 a.m., every Saturday
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More Information: www.balboapark.org

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Where: Locations vary; check website for specific event details
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Contact Us!

Do you have an event, class or meeting that you'd like to let *California
Garden* readers know about? If so, please email calendar@sdfloral.org or
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You may also submit the above information via regular mail, sent to Calendar
Editor, San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado Room 105, San Diego,
CA 92101. Space is limited, so please get in touch today to ensure inclusion!
The deadline for the upcoming Jul/Aug 2009 issue is May 10, 2009; the
deadline for the Sept/Oct 2009 issue is June 10, 2009.

The author of the article excerpted here is now retired but for many years she was a fearless force in planning the appropriate and beautiful landscaping for the Schools of San Diego—as noted in the preface below from 1950. We have abbreviated the article, which includes information on specific plants. —Lucy Warren

Spring, 1950

It is encouraging to realize that the San Diego Board of Education has placed the landscaping of our city schools in the hands of a local girl, Jane Minshall, who majored in landscape design at the University of California. In this article she gives a glimpse of what is being done to beautify our school grounds with native shrubs, so that we may see how choice and practical they are for our gardens.

Let's Grow Natives

Jane A. Minshall

Because of the strange notion that something that is imported is superior and more desirable than a home grown product, many of our beautiful California shrubs enter our gardens all too rarely. California natives have been growing in English gardens for many years, where they are appreciated, and where their real beauty is recognized.

Gardeners who are looking for something different, drought resistant and pest free, should consider some of the plants that grow in our hills and canyons. Bear in mind the cultural needs of these natives, some of which mingle happily with the exotics—those that will take water the year around—and those that are better off when kept apart and treated differently. There are native shrubs for all purposes in a garden, such as hedges, ground covers, background, and accent shrubs.

Those of you who like rosemary, lemon verbena and other shrubs with fragrant foliage should not miss *Salvia clevelandi* (Fragrant or Cleveland sage). This little sage, limited to San Diego County and Lower California, is especially noticeable on the grade west of Alpine. I wonder how many motorists have inhaled that lovely fragrance without the slightest idea of its source. We have recently put in a few dozen plants of Cleveland sage on the west side of the boy's gymnasium at Point Loma High School, where those who pass by may enjoy it for years to come. The green-gray leaves and very rich blue flowers are good for cutting. This native prefers light soil, full sun and a little summer watering.

Thirty-five species of *Ceanothus*, commonly called wild-lilac, grow in California. Many of these are worthy of garden use. They range in size and shape from the tree-like *ceanothus* to the flat ground covers....We have recently put in a mass planting of *C. griseus horizontalis* (Carmel creeper) at Point Loma High School. A year from this spring the slope where it is planted should be covered with a mantle of blue. We have given it a background of *C. cyaneus*, rich-green *Prunus ilicifolia*, and *Fremontia mexicana*, with its big satiny, golden flowers in spring and summer. The blue of wild lilacs, combined with the gold of fremontias, is a wonderful sight to behold.

Prunus ilicifolia (hollyleaf cherry), one of the best-known wild shrubs, is grown for individual specimens and for hedges



Ceanothus arborescens

PHOTO: RACHEL COBB

—and a handsome hedge it makes. From March to May, its dark green holly-like foliage is nearly hidden by the many clusters of cream-colored flowers. In September, the edible oblong cherries are as decorative as the bloom. The foliage is fine for Christmas wreaths.

Ribes speciosum (fuchsia-flowered gooseberry) is also good for Christmas decorations because its graceful habit of growth and lively green foliage are adapted to arrangements. The glossy, narrow, bell-like, red flowers resemble those of a fuchsia, hence its common name.

Cneoridium dumosum (berry rue), a very nice little shrub belonging to the same family as the citrus fruits, is hard to obtain in nurseries. There is much of it in the hills near Lakeside growing against granite boulders and sprawling over them. The one-inch, linear, gray-blue-green leaves are very aromatic, as are the small white star-like flowers that come in winter. The blooms are followed by very round, conspicuous berries that are reddish for a time and the brown.

Autumn is the best time to plant natives, because the winter rains help to establish them. Their most important cultural requirement is *good drainage*. Be very careful with manure. Most of our California shrubs will live longer without it.

A number of natives, such as species of *ceanothus*, *sumac*, *toyon* and *fremontia* are available now and are quite widely planted. There are others just as deserving but hard to find in the nurseries because they are seldom requested. However, within the past years, there has been an increasing interest in the use of native plant material, and it is hoped that the demand will become great enough to encourage the raising of a larger variety for sale.

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